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*oides*. The bell-shaped shell is perforated by numerous holes, out of which stream in all directions the pseudopodia, some of which are enlarged at intervals into small masses of protoplasm.

— The death has recently been announced of Sir Richard John Griffith, Bart., the geologist and engineer, who died in Dublin, aged 94 years; of Thomas Belt, an English mining engineer and geologist, well known from his "Naturalist in Nicaragua," who died at Denver, Colorado, Sept. 22d; and of Prof. Robert Harkness, who died Oct. 3d, at Dublin.

— Subscriptions are solicited for a Manual of Conchology; structural and systematic, with illustrations of the species, by George W. Tryon, Jr., conservator of conchological section of the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia. Vol. i, Cephalopoda, will be published by the author at Philadelphia, during the the coming year.

— The schooner *Florence*, of the Howgate Arctic Expedition, which returned at the close of October, Congress having failed to appropriate money for Polar colonization, brought home valuable collections of specimens and drawings, made by Mr. Kumlein, the naturalist of the expedition.

— Under the name of *Science News*, Mr. S. E. Cassino, of Salem, Mass., publishes an octavo fortnightly magazine of sixteen pages, edited by Messrs. Ernest Ingersoll and W. C. Wyckoff. It is devoted to general science, physical as well as natural.

Dr. Kalter, the editor of the *Entomologische Nachrichten*, published fortnightly at Putbus a Rügen, Germany, desires copies of papers and articles by North American entomologists for notice in his periodical.



## PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES OF PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 5, 1878.—Thos. Meehan and others remarked upon the indigenous character of *Calluna vulgaris*.

Nov. 12.—Dr. Jos. Leidy made some remarks on the distribution of *Chenopodium*; he also described some parasites of *Donax fossor*, one of which he named *Distomum cornutifrons*. Meehan remarked on *Mitchella repens*. Dr. A. J. Parker made some remarks on the comparative development of the Island of Reil in the brains of Primates.

Nov. 19.—Messrs. Gray, Redfield and Meehan spoke on the evidence in favor of the indigenous character of *Calluna vulgaris*. Drs. Leidy and Evarts made observations upon Gordius, the former gentleman describing a new species parasitic in *Clepsine* which he called *G. tenuis*.

Dec. 3.—Dr. Leidy made some remarks on the rarity of *Taenia*

*solium*, and the commoner occurrence of *T. mediocanellata*, with some account of the specific differences which he had observed.

Proceedings of the Sections of the Academy:—Microscopical and Biological, Nov. 4.—Mr. J. A. Ryder remarked "On the Gemmule vs. the Plastidule as the Ultimate Physical Unit of Living Matter."

Nov. 18.—Dr. J. G. Hunt, on the classification of Fungi and the best modes for their microscopical study. Mr. Jos. Zentmayer exhibited a new mechanical revolving stage, which admitted of 70° of obliquity of illumination.

Dec. 2.—Dr. H. C. McCook made a communication "On the minute anatomy of the stinging organs of ants."

BOSTON SOCIETY OF NATURAL HISTORY, Nov. 20.—Dr. David Hunt make a communication entitled Darwinism and the Human Eye; Dr. C. S. Minot remarked on growth as a function of cells.

Dec. 4.—Dr. S. Kneeland remarked on traces of the Mediterranean nations in the Northern Ocean. Mr. S. H. Scudder read a paper on early types of insects, or the origin and succession of insect life in palæozoic times.

AMERICAN GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, Dec. 12.—Mr. James Douglas, Jr., gave an account of his journey along the West Coast of South America from Panama to Valparaiso.

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB.—Prof. H. F. Walling gave some account of Mt. Toby, Mass., and Mr. W. H. Pickering described an ascent of the Half Dome, Yosemite.

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## SELECTED ARTICLES IN SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE AND ARTS.—December, 1878. Valley of the Minnesota river and of the Mississippi river to the junction of the Ohio: its origin considered, by G. K. Warren (with eight plates). On some points in lithology, J. D. Dana. Anatomical peculiarity by which crania of the Mound-builders may be distinguished from those of the modern Indians, by W. J. McGee. Discoveries in western caves, by H. C. Hovey.

SIEBOLD AND KOLLIKER'S ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR WISSENSCHAFTLICHE ZOOLOGIE.—November 11. On the convolutions of the brain of the Ungulates, by J. Krug. Contributions to the anatomy of the Ophiurans, by Prof. H. Ludwig. On some cases of parasitism in the Infusoria, by J. Van Rees. On the developmental history of the fresh-water mussels, by C. Schierholz.

ANNALES DES SCIENCES NATURELLES.—August 5. Anatomical and physiological researches on respiration in the fishes, by M. Jobert. Experiments on the conditions of development of Ligulæ, by M. Deschamp.